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January 19, 2006

Keith L. Drollinger, SID No. 5496710
Snake River Correctional Institution
777 Stanton Boulevard
Ontario, OR 97914

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order:
Malheur County Trial Court Records

Dear Mr. Drollinger:

This letter is the Attorney General's order on your petition for disclosure of records under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.410 to 192.505. Your petition, which we received on January 17, 2006, asks the Attorney General to order the Crook County Trial Court Administrator to make available for inspection the "number of Circuit Court Judges from Malheur County that preside over Post-Conviction Relief cases/proceedings" and the "names of Circuit Court Judges from Malheur County that preside over Post-Conviction Relief cases/proceedings." For the reasons that follow, we respectfully deny your petition.

The Public Records Law confers a right to inspect any public records of a public body in Oregon, subject to certain exemptions and limitations. *See* ORS 192.420. The law requires generally that the custodian of public records furnish proper and reasonable opportunities for their inspection or copying in the office of the custodian. ORS 192.430. If a state agency denies a request for disclosure of records, the requestor may petition the Attorney General for review of the denial. ORS 192.450(1).

We have been informed by Pamela Barton, Malheur County Trial Court Administrator, that her office has no record of having received the request for records you attached to your petition. Because the agency did not receive, and therefore could

not have denied your request, the Attorney General must deny your petition. However, Ms. Barton has told us that, although her office is not the custodian of any record that specifically addresses your request, she will respond to you under separate cover with information on the Malheur County Circuit Judges.

Sincerely,

PETER D. SHEPHERD
Deputy Attorney General

PDS/gvk:AGS16873
c: Nori Cross, Office of the State Court Administrator
Pamela Barton, Malheur County Trial Court Administrator